

# OPTOMETRY CONTRACT PROGRAM

Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 320  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
Phone: (502) 573-1555  
Fax: (502) 573-1535  
Email: [barbara.cook@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:barbara.cook@mail.state.ky.us)

---

Kentucky provides access to optometry training programs in Alabama, Indiana, and Tennessee. Kentucky currently contracts for 14 entering spaces each year: 3 spaces at the University of Alabama School of Optometry in Birmingham, Alabama; 3 spaces at the Indiana University School of Optometry in Bloomington, Indiana; and 8 spaces at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee. These spaces are reserved for Kentuckians who compete for admission to a program under the Kentucky quota. Each school or college of optometry awards the Kentucky contract positions to students accepted into its program. Students admitted under the contract program are charged reduced rates and each student is responsible for paying his/her fees. In addition to the payment by the student, Kentucky pays a fee for each student to the enrolling institution. Students are supported for a total of four years and generally graduate at the end of four years. Other than the requirement that the applicant be a Kentucky resident in order to participate, the student does not have an obligation to Kentucky under the contract program.

Kentucky residency status is based on *13 KAR 2:045, Determination of residency status for admission and tuition assessment purposes*. For students enrolled full-time at a Kentucky public university, the student's residency status is determined by the admissions or registrar's office of that university. The student is responsible for requesting the admissions or registrar's office to notify the optometry schools of his/her residency status. The residency status of part-time students and students attending private or out-of-state colleges or universities is determined by the Council on Postsecondary Education. Residency applications may be downloaded from the Council's website at [www.cpe.state.ky.us](http://www.cpe.state.ky.us) (Going to College / Academic Programs / Optometry) or they may be requested by phone (502-573-1555) or by email ([barbara.cook@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:barbara.cook@mail.state.ky.us)).

Students should contact the optometry schools for advice on undergraduate requirements, to request application forms, and for information about deadlines.

University of Alabama / Birmingham  
School of Optometry  
Birmingham AL 35294  
(205) 934-6150  
[www.uab.edu/optometry](http://www.uab.edu/optometry)

Indiana University  
School of Optometry  
800 East Atwater Avenue  
Bloomington IN 47405-3680  
(812) 855-1917  
[www.opt.indiana.edu](http://www.opt.indiana.edu)

Southern College of Optometry  
1245 Madison Avenue  
Memphis TN 38104-2222  
(901) 722-3200  
(800) 238-0180  
[www.sco.edu](http://www.sco.edu)